



STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

1 9 4 8





STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs. Field and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report on the health of the Startforth Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

As I was not appointed Medical Officer of Health until the 18th July, 1949, I am unable to present a comprehensive survey of the general health of the District for the year under review and must confine the report to the statistics, with comparisons where available.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health - A. Leishman, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector - T. Ashcroft, C.R.S.I.,  
Ass.M.Inst.San.Engs.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the District,	97,630 Acres
Population,	4,043
Number of Inhabited houses,	1,294
Rateable Value,	£54,222
Sum represented by a penny rate,	£227. 6s. 10d.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory facilities for assistance in diagnosis of certain infectious diseases is available at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton.

Nursing in the Home, is catered for efficiently by six District Nursing Associations and their Nurses also act as Health Visitors under the County Council Scheme.

Hospital and Ambulance Services.

An ambulance has been provided for cases other than infectious diseases.

VITAL STATISTICS.BIRTHS.

The number of Births in the District notified during the year was 85, as against 81 in the previous year.

Birth Rate Comparisons.

			Per 1,000 population (4043).
Startforth Rural District,	1947	-	19.30
" " "	1948	-	21.02
England and Wales,	1948	-	17.90

Analysis/.....



STATISTICS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mrs. Field and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present the Report on the health of the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1928.

As I was not appointed Medical Officer of Health until the 1st July, 1929, I am unable to present a comprehensive survey of the general health of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1928. The report is therefore confined to the period when I was in office.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health  
 Deputy Inspector  
 G. Ashcroft, O.B.E., M.B., B.S.  
 Mrs. M. J. Ashcroft

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District, 37,530 acres  
 Population, 4,043  
 Number of inhabited houses, 1,294  
 Number of farms, 284  
 Area occupied by a heavy road, 2227 sq. yds.

GENERAL PROVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Laboratory facilities for bacteriology and virology are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton.

Water in the home is a scarce commodity. It is obtained from the public supply, and is distributed through the County Council's waterworks.

HOSPITAL AND AMBULANCE SERVICES

An ambulance has been provided for cases of infectious diseases.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of births in the district notified during the year was 86, as against 81 in the previous year.

Birth Rate Comparison

1929	1928	1927
21.02	21.02	21.02
19.30	19.30	19.30



ANALYSIS.

<u>Live Births.</u>			Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated <u>population</u>
	Sex.		
	M	F	
Legitimate,	41	41	20.28
Illegitimate,	--	3	.74
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Totals,	41	44	21.02

<u>Stillbirths.</u>		
Legitimate,	--	--
Illegitimate,	--	--

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was no case of a woman dying in, or in consequence of childbirth during the year out of a total of 85 registered births.

Comparisons.

	Per 1,000 total births
Startforth Rural District, 1947	Nil
" " " 1948	Nil
England and Wales, 1948	1.02

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The number of infants under one year who died during the year was 4 (Males) as against 3 in 1947.

Infantile Mortality Rates Comparison.

	Per 1,000 live births.
Startforth Rural District, 1947	37.08
" " " 1948	47.06
England and Wales, 1948	34.00

DEATHS.

During 1948 there were 54 deaths from all causes registered as against 59 in 1947.

Death Rates Comparison

	Per 1,000 estimated population
Startforth Rural District, 1947	14.1
" " " 1948	13.36
England and Wales, 1948	10.80







# Analysis of Causes of Deaths and Comparisons with 1947

	M 1947	F	M 1948	F
Whooping Cough,	.	.	1	.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory	.	.	.	.
System,	.	2	1	.
Other forms of Tuberculosis,	1	.	.	.
Measles,	.	.	.	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and	.	.	.	.
Polioencephalitis,	2	.	.	.
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum,	1	.	.	.
" of breast,	.	1	.	1
" of all other sites,	1	2	2	2
Diabetes,	.	.	.	1
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions,	.	7	5	3
Heart Diseases,	12	8	12	7
Other diseases of circulatory	.	.	.	.
system,	.	3	.	1
Bronchitis,	2	1	.	.
Pneumonia,	2	.	1	.
Other Respiratory Diseases,	1	2	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum,	.	.	.	1
Other Digestive Diseases,	1	.	1	.
Nephritis,	3	.	.	3
Premature Birth,	.	.	2	.
Congenital Malformation;	.	.	.	.
birth injuries etc.,	.	1	1	.
Suicide,	.	1	.	1
Road Traffic Accidents,	1	.	.	.
Other violent causes,	.	1	1	.
All other causes,	1	2	2	2
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All Causes,	28	31	30	24

## Analysis of Causes and Comparisons of Deaths from the Seven chief causes.

	1947		1948	
	No.	Rate per	No.	Rate per
	<u>No.</u>	<u>1,000 Pop.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>1,000 Pop.</u>
Cancer,	5	1.19	5	1.24
Respiratory (Not T/B)	8	1.91	3	.74
Heart Diseases,	20	4.76	19	4.70
Tuberculosis Pul.	2	.48	1	.245
" Non Pul.	1	.24	-	-
Other circulatory	.	.	.	.
diseases,	3	.71	1	.245
Intra-cranial Vascular	7	.	.	.
Lesions,	.	1.67	8	1.98
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Totals,	46	10.96	37	9.15

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 206 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, as against 59 in 1947.

Analysis/.....







Analysis and Comparisons of Infectious Diseases.

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
Scarlet Fever,	2	16
Whooping Cough,	11	16
Diphtheria,	1	-
Measles,	40	164
Acute Pneumonia,	2	5
Erysipelas,	-	5
Acute Polimyletis,	3	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals.	<u>59</u>	<u>206</u>

Tuberculosis.

There were two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one case of Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year as against 5 Pulmonary Tuberculosis and no Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis notifications in 1947.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Pulmonary T/B</u>	<u>Non Pulmonary T/B</u>
1948	1	-
1947	2	1

Total number of inspections made for nuisances,	175
Nuisances found,	86
Notices served Informal,	22
Notices served Statutory,	82

Rural Housing Survey

The following number of houses have been inspected during the year, namely - 98 houses.

The result of the Categories being as follows:-

1. Satisfactory in all respects,	30
2. Minor defects,	34
3. Repairs or structural alterations,	34
4. Suitable for Housing (Rural Workers) Acts,	78
5. Unfit,	Nil.

Closet Accommodation.

The majority of the houses within the district are on the pail or privy system. Until the Parishes are sewered and provided with adequate water supplies conversions cannot be entertained. Schemes are in hand for this work to be carried out.

Number of new W.C's erected,	7
Number of Pails converted to W.C's,	12
Number of Privies converted to W.C's.	6

Scavenging/.....







Scavenging.

Public scavenging is in operation in the following Parishes, Startforth, Lartington, Cotherstone, Romaldkirk, Mickleton, Holwick, Rokeby, Bowes, Boldron, Hutton Magna, Ovington, and Barningham. Two Karrier Scavenging vehicles with a driver/loader, and loader are employed on each. The refuse is deposited at 3 tips, one at Mickleton, one at Rokeby, and one at Barningham.

Infectious Diseases.

I have investigated the following number of Infectious Diseases:-

Scarlet Fever,..... 4  
One verminous house also dealt with.

All rooms occupied by patients have been promptly and efficiently fumigated with formalin gas.

Factory Act 1937-1948

We have on our Register 17 premises. Inspections have been made during the year with reference to cleanliness, sanitary conveniences, temperature, and ventilation.

Number of inspections, 15  
Number of defects found, 5

Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops.

During the year no complaints with regard to dirty milk etc., have been received.

Number of persons on the Registers, 383  
Number of inspections, 92

Structural alterations have been carried out in many cases during the year.

The cleanliness and methods of handling and production of milk are good. The quality of the milk is good, and the Retailers deliver in properly capped bottles, or cartons in most cases.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

We have 5 private slaughter houses licenced by the Council. No slaughtering takes place at the present time within our area. All meat inspections being carried out at the Public Abbatoir at Barnard Castle.

The undermentioned food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

20 lbs. Butter,  
12 lbs. Mutton.

Rodent Control/.....







Rodent Control.

Much work has been done under this heading during the year. We have a part time Rodent Officer, and during the year the refuse tips and sewers and disposal works and a few private dwellings have been dealt with.

I take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to your Sanitary Inspector, Captain Ashcroft, who, together with his staff, have diligently helped with the work of the Department and have given me the greatest possible assistance in preparing this report,

I am,

Mrs. Field and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*Austin Priestman.*

Medical Officer of Health.



